

From: [Trudy McGavin](#)
To: [Comments, Public](#)
Subject: Short sales
Date: Saturday, July 10, 2021 10:22:56 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I am an ordinary citizen who invests some monies into the stock market. I also have IRA retirement investment and mutual funds. I suspect that the majority of US citizens have some type of investment, whether it be through their retirement savings or individual savings. For this reason I feel it important to comment on the current situation in the stock market and express my opinion regarding short sales.

Many stocks are being heavily shorted including naked or synthetic shorts. I understand that naked shorts are illegal, however that doesn't mean that it is not happening. I believe that there is already some investigation going into illegal short sales of both GME and AMC.

This stock manipulation, by shorts sales, undermines the reliability and faith in the stock market. If I as a consumer choose to invest in the stock market, and then discover that the stocks that I have chosen are being heavily manipulated, I lose faith in the system as a whole. Many of us have lost faith in this system, and yet this system is what our retirement savings is based on.

I believe that naked shorts should be heavily enforced, to the point of prison time. Handing out fines is not enough to deter hedge funds from continuing in this illegal activity. The penalty should be severe. Additionally I believe that short sales should be completely eliminated. I am not a financial expert, therefore I'm not savvy to the full implications of eliminating short sales, however if short sales are to continue then they need to be strictly regulated and enforced.

I fear that we are headed for another market crash and therefore severe impact on our economy. The current situation in the stock market with heavy short sales and naked sales, that manipulate the stock prices, will be the cause of this market crash.

As one of the regulating bodies, it is your responsibility to protect the market and the economy. There needs to be accountability and the manipulation must stop.

Thank you!
Trudy McGavin